

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Cherchali, et al. §
Serial No.: 09/966,492 § Group Art Unit: 2619
Confirmation No.: 5290 §
Filed: September 28, 2001 § Examiner: Anthony M. Sol
For: TECHNIQUE FOR §
PROVIDING TRANSLATION §
BETWEEN THE PACKET §
ENVIRONMENT AND THE §
PSTN ENVIRONMENT §

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131

Dear Sir:

We, Ali Cherchali, James Ehlinger, Paul Fellingham, Marius Jonas Gudelis, Steven M. Michelson and James Yatsko, hereby declare as follows:

1. We are the inventors of the above-captioned patent application.
2. The invention of pending claims 1-5, 7-14 and 16-18 was conceived of prior to November 28, 2000, and filed with due diligence from prior to November 28, 2000, to filing of the present application on September 28, 2001.
3. Enclosed herewith in support of this declaration is an invention disclosure (Exhibit A) dated prior to November 28, 2000. Information not relevant to the invention date of the above-captioned patent application is redacted.

We further declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Ali Cherchali

Date

James Ehlinger

Date

Paul Fellingham

Date

Marius Jonas Gudelis

Date

Steven M. Michelson

Date

James Yatsko

Digitally signed by James Yatsko
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James Yatsko

Date

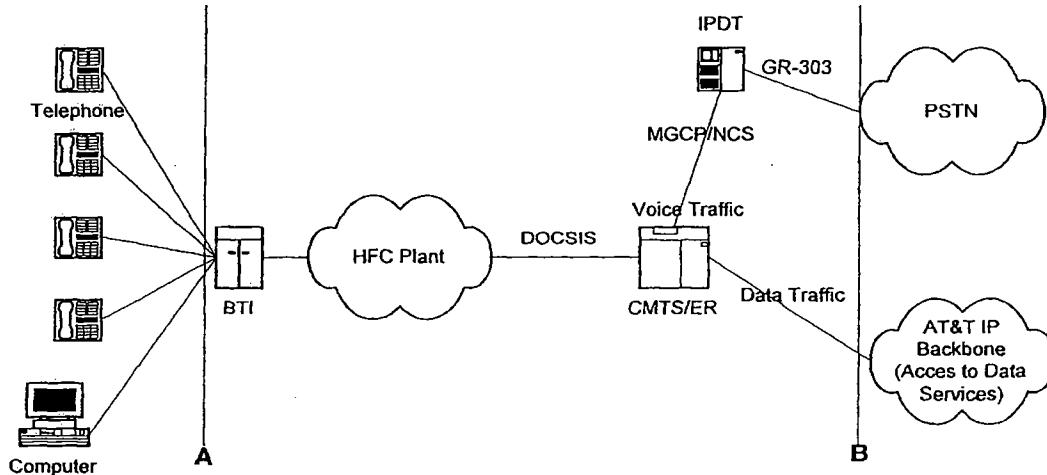
EXHIBIT A

Overview:

AT&T is currently defining a packet technology based solution to deliver Voice-over-IP ("VoIP") primary line, full featured, carrier grade local telephony and high-speed data services on regional Hybrid Fiber Coax (HFC) infrastructures. This solution includes interconnection to national/international public switched telephone networks and IP backbone facilities. The solution has three major characteristics:

1. Packet technology is used on the access part of the network.
2. Standard Class 5 switches are used to provide the call processing functions and calling features.
3. An Internet Protocol Digital Terminal (IPDT) is used to provide a translation function between the Packet environment and the PSTN Class 5 switching environment.

A diagram of the solution is depicted below.



Proposed Patent:

The proposal is to pursue a patent for the IPDT idea. The IPDT function provides a translation function between the Packet environment and the PSTN environment. The IPDT would provide translation for both bearer channels (IP/TDM) and signaling (MGCP/GR303) between both environments. Call processing and any associated functions, would be performed in a circuit switched environment using AT&T's embedded base of Class 5 switches.

Advantages:

Advantages of the IPDT include:

1. Allows full integration of voice and data services over cable and wireless access facilities using packet technology.
2. Enables the same CPE to provide both voice and data services.
3. Allows HFC/Wireless spectrum to be used more efficiently.
4. Utilizes embedded base of Class 5 circuit switches.
5. Allows existing connectivity to PSTNs to be utilized.